

Phragmites



WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

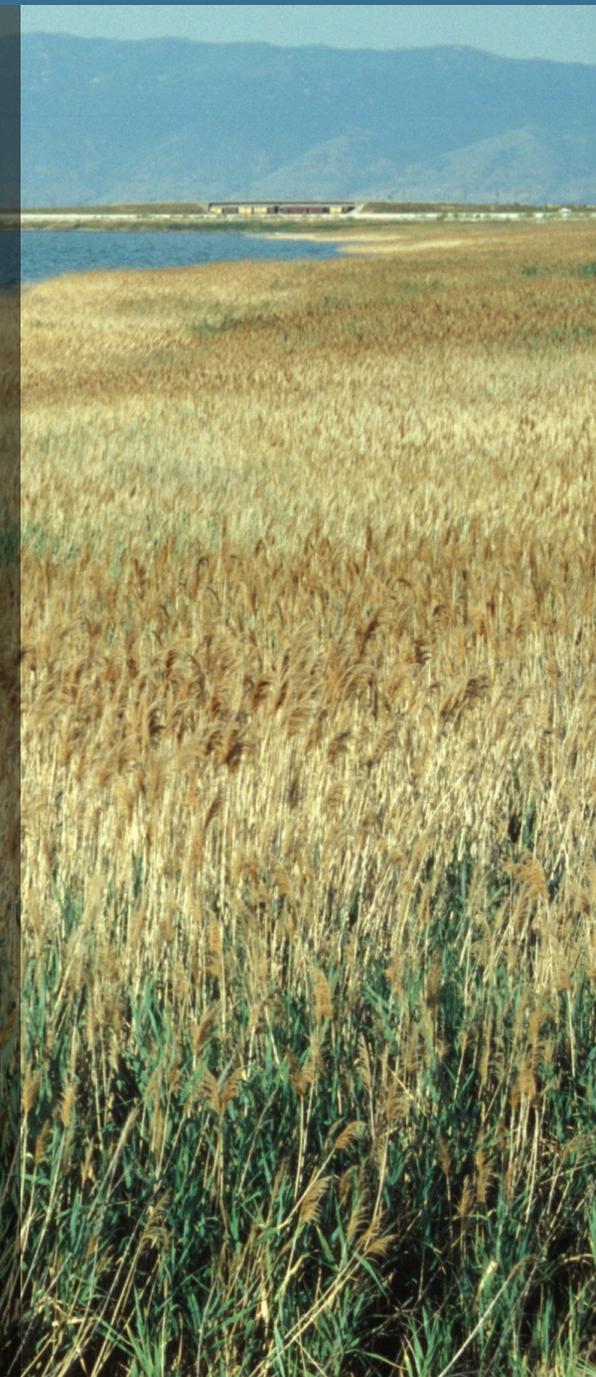
Washington Invasive
Species Council

Are we ready to respond?

- ✓ **INITIAL DETECTION**
Do standards exist for verification and are experts known?
- ✓ **THREAT-RISK EVALUATION**
Have threats and risks to Washington been identified?
- ✓ **AUTHORITY-RESOURCE INVENTORY**
Is the responsible agency known and is funding available?
- ✓ **DECISION TO ACT**
Has agency approval and funding been provided?
- ✓ **RESPONSE DEVELOPMENT**
Are control strategies known? Is an action plan in place?
- ✓ **OUTREACH TO DECISION MAKERS**
Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation?
- ✓ **OUTREACH TO PUBLIC**
Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation? Are key stakeholders known?
- ✓ **LEGAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL-PERMITTING PROCESS**
Are permits in place or readily secured?

After response actions and monitoring has occurred.

- ✓ **FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS**
Has the agency allocated funds for follow-up response actions informed by monitoring?



ARE WE READY?

Rapid Response Elements that are in Place for **Phragmites**

INITIAL DETECTION. Do standards exist for verification? Are experts known?

Yes. County weed boards are actively looking for this plant and closely monitoring areas where it is likely to show up.

THREAT-RISK EVALUATION. Have threats and risks to Washington been identified?

Yes, based on what this plant has done to wetlands in similar climate situations on the East Coast and northeast USA. The Potholes and Winchester Wasteway in eastern Washington has also served as a demonstration of what this plant can do if left unchecked.

AUTHORITY-RESOURCE INVENTORY. Is the responsible agency known and is funding available?

Yes. WSDA, the State Noxious Weed Control Board and the County weed boards are in place and actively working on this.

DECISION TO ACT. Has agency approval and funding been provided?

Yes. Most County weed boards are funded to deal with initial infestations, and state law provides authority to require landowners to provide control. However, in at least one area (Winchester Wasteway) Phragmites is now well established and economically infeasible to control.

RESPONSE DEVELOPMENT. Are control strategies known? Is an action plan in place?

Yes. Weed scientists have studied this plant. Chemical control is the only proven method. Action is the responsibility of the County weed board.

OUTREACH TO DECISION MAKERS. Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation?

Yes. The State Noxious Weed Control Board and the County weed boards are responsible for outreach at the state and local government levels.

OUTREACH TO PUBLIC. Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation? Are key stakeholders known?

Yes, although it would vary slightly with each county. The bird hunting community is a key stakeholder group due to this plant's impact on habitat.

LEGAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL – PERMITTING PROCESS. Are permits in place or readily secured?

Yes, although it is up to the property owner to obtain permits for use of herbicides in wetland situations.

ACTION.

MONITORING.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS. Has the agency allocated funds for follow-up response actions informed by monitoring (adaptive management element)?

Yes. It is the responsibility of the County weed board's to perform follow-up actions.